

TI Retiree Health Benefits Bulletin

April 22, 2004

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COORDINATION OF BENEFITS: BCBS/MEDICARE

To be certain that your benefits are being coordinated properly, you must call Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS). See directions for contacting BCBS below.

As the deadline for submitting 2003 claims approaches, here are a few things for you to remember:

1. Please call Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) through TI SmartLink at (800) 890-2600 and tell the representative that you want to verify that BCBS has your Medicare information in its system. You will be asked for your Medicare number, which Medicare calls the Medicare Claim Number located on your Medicare card. You will also be asked for the Medicare effective date.
2. There is no paperwork required if you are the TI retiree, only this call. If you are calling on behalf of the TI retiree, you may be asked to complete a form.
3. The filing deadline for 2003 claims is June 30, 2004. If your claims have not been processed through BCBS, it will work with you to make certain that this occurs. The plan is being amended for this one-time situation. If you are in this situation and cannot meet the June deadline for filing 2003 claims, the deadline will be extended until September 30, 2004.

To get to BCBS from TI SmartLink, call (800) 890-2600:

1. Enter your Social Security number.
2. At the first menu option, say "health care."
3. At the second menu option, say "health plans."
4. At the third menu option, say "medical."

Here are some other helpful tips for you to remember:

- When you visit your providers, always give them your Medicare ID card and your BCBS ID card.
- Your providers will file your claim with Medicare first. It will then go to BCBS for secondary payment. You will receive an Explanation of Benefits (EOB) from Medicare and also from BCBS.

How BCBS can help you with claims:

- If you are receiving bills from your providers for past services, please contact your BCBS Customer Service Representative through TI SmartLink. Ask the BCBS customer service

representative if BCBS has received the claim. If the claim hasn't been received at BCBS, the customer service representative will work with you to get the claim from your provider.

- If you file your own claim, then you must first file the charges with Medicare. Upon receipt of the Medicare EOB, you must then file with BCBS for secondary benefit payment. The claim form to file charges with BCBS is available on the Your Benefits Resources (YBR) Web site at <http://resources.hewitt.ti.com/ti>. If you do not have access to the Internet, please contact a BCBS Customer Service Representative through TI SmartLink at (800) 890-2600 to obtain a form that will be mailed to your home address.

MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM UPDATE

In recent months, you might have read or heard about the Medicare-Approved Drug Discount Card.

What is it?

- It is a card offered by Medicare giving you the opportunity to receive discounts on prescription drugs.

Is there a cost for the card?

- Yes. Contact Medicare to find out cost information for the card.

How do I get this card?

- If you want this card, you will need to contact Medicare to request it.

When will it be available?

- Contact Medicare for the exact dates, but it should be available in early summer 2004.

How will this card affect my current TI extended benefits?

- This will not adversely affect your current TI extended benefits.
- Your pharmacy will accept whichever of these plans has the greatest savings for you. Since there is a cost for the card, you will want to consider that in your decision.
- You will need to contact Medicare to determine your specific situation and how this may provide additional savings for you if you are currently enrolled in the BCBS plan, for example.

Where can I get details about this card?

- Contact Medicare through its Web site at www.medicare.gov or call it at (800) MEDICARE (633-4227)

UPCOMING MEDICARE BENEFITS

- In 2005 Medicare will offer new preventive benefits for participants of Medicare Part B; contact Medicare for the details.
- In 2006 Medicare will offer prescription drug benefits; contact Medicare for the details.

Sincerely,

TI Total Compensation and Benefits